



Environmental Protection Agency

Vacancy Listing Report

Vacancy Number: Reg 9-MP-2006-0106

Vacancy Description: Inter En Eng / Sci / Life Sci, GS-819 / 1301 / 401 - 12 / 13

Vac/Duty Loc 1: 1, Phoenix, AZ

Vac/Duty Loc 2:

Vac/Duty Loc 3:

Series/Grade: GS-0819/1301A-12/13

Hiring Agency: Environmental Protection Agency

Contact Information: Heidi Acquisti, 415-972-3836, acquisti.heidi@epa.gov

Promotion Potential: GS-13

Date Opened: 8/14/06

Date Closed: 8/25/06

Salary: 62363 - 96404

Information:

THIS IS A MERIT PROMOTION ANNOUNCEMENT

BEFORE APPLYING, PLEASE READ THE ENTIRE ANNOUNCEMENT
AND PAY PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO "HOW TO APPLY
FOR THIS VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT" AND THE REQUIRED
SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION NECESSARY IN ORDER TO BE
CONSIDERED.

This position is an Interdisciplinary position and is also being
advertised concurrently under announcement #Reg 9-DE-2006-0043. In
order to be considered under multiple announcements applicants
must apply separately under each announcement. Vacancy may be
filled by means other than this announcement.

RELOCATION EXPENSES

Travel, transportation, and relocation expenses will not be paid by the Agency.
Any travel, transportation, and relocation expenses associated with reporting
for duty in this position will be the responsibility of the selected candidate.

WHO MAY APPLY

This merit promotion announcement is open to current permanent employees
throughout EPA and federal employees nationwide (current and former with
reinstatement eligibility). In addition, applications from individuals who
are eligible for consideration under a special hiring authority
i.e., persons with disabilities who qualify for Schedule A
appointments; 30% or more disabled veterans; veterans eligible for
appointments under the Veteran's Recruitment Act; preference eligibles
or veterans who are honorably discharged from the armed forces after
three or more years of active service and who meet the requirements
under the Veterans Employment Opportunity Act (VEOA); Peace
Corps/VISTA returnees; and PHS Officers) will also be accepted. If
you wish to be considered non-competitively under a special hiring
authority, you must indicate on your application the special authority



Environmental Protection Agency

Vacancy Listing Report

under which you wish to be considered and submit proof of your eligibility with your application materials

LOCATION OF POSITION:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9, Superfund Division, Response, Planning & Assessment Branch, Emergency Response Section. These positions will be Place Based in Phoenix, Arizona and the selected candidate will reside with a host agency (tentatively the EPA Criminal Investigations Division Office).

NUMBER OF POSITIONS: 1 (Full-Time)

SALARY RANGE:

Environmental Engineer/Environmental Scientist/Life Scientist

GS-12: □ \$62,363 - \$81,069 per annum

GS-13: □ \$74,160 - \$96,404 per annum

PROMOTIONAL POTENTIAL

The highest grade (full performance level) of this position is GS-13. The position may be filled at either the GS-12 or GS-13 grade level. The primary difference between grade levels is the degree of supervision, the level of training and guidance provided and the complexity of assignment. A person selected at the GS-12 grade level may be promoted progressively to the full performance level of GS-13 without further competition.

DESCRIPTION OF WORK AT THE GS-13 LEVEL

Employee serves as on-scene coordinator (OSC) for emergency response actions and removal actions at National Priority List (NPL) and non NPL sites. The demands of the assignments are frequently due to extraordinary urgency, public interest or economic impact associated with a disaster, thus creating a need for critical judgment in making substantial compromises. As such, the incumbent assesses the extent and nature of a release of oil or hazardous substance to determine the appropriate level of response. Responds to and manages EPA involvement in the containment, clean-up, disposal, mitigation or removal and/or rehabilitation efforts following oil spills and/or hazardous substances releases. In situations involving incidents from weapons of mass destruction, immediately notifies and coordinates with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), FEMA, and state and local authorities. Provides assistance to Federal, State, and industrial representatives on problems of a technical nature pertaining to clean-up and/or removal guidelines, criteria or specifications. Direct contractual efforts in cases where EPA must assume clean-up duties. Represents the Region on-site in contacts with public, industry, public officials and the news media.

An essential responsibility of this position is the sound management of contracts through which the organization accomplishes a portion of its work. The person selected will perform contract management duties including assisting with the management of the programs Interagency Agreements (IAGs) and contracts, acting as a deputy or back up project officer, tracking available funds and processing



Environmental Protection Agency

Vacancy Listing Report

work assignments, delivery orders and technical direction documents. As an OSC, contracting duties include acting as contracting officer, monitoring and tracking all activities and costs associated with the removal action, preparing and/or signing daily work orders, purchase and procurement forms, and cleanup contractor reports; review and approval of invoices, determine the appropriate contract mechanism, manage and provide technical direction to contractors or other parties, coordinate and direct removal logistics, and oversee and evaluate contractor performance.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS OF THIS POSITION:

As a condition of employment, the person selected for this position may be required to visit sites that have been contaminated with biological, chemical, and nuclear materials. In addition, the person selected for this position may be required to undergo vaccination against biological agents. Failure to perform these duties or to comply with EPA's Health and Safety Program may result in disciplinary action.

☐

This position requires performance of moderately strenuous field activities and use of personal protective equipment such as a full-face respirator and self contained breathing apparatus (SCBA).

May perform standby duty during non-working hours at employee's residence to respond to and coordinate emergency response actions.

This position requires out-of-town travel of 10-15 days/month including some weekend travel.

EMPLOYMENT CONDITIONS: The position may be subject to one or more of the following:

Union: ☐ ESC

Medical Monitoring: YES ☐ ☐

Drug Testing: ☐ YES

Financial Disclosure: YES

Supervisory Probationary Period: NO

One Year Probationary Period: YES (If applicable)

Position Sensitivity Level: Nonsensitive ☐

DRUG TESTING: All applicants tentatively selected for this position will be required to submit to urinalysis to screen for illegal drug use prior to appointment.

BASIC QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

Environmental Engineer:

A. Successful completion of an undergraduate or higher degree in environmental engineering or a related engineering discipline (e.g., chemical, civil, etc.) from an accredited college or university. To be acceptable, the curriculum must: (1) be in a school of engineering with

Vacancy Listing Report

at least one curriculum accredited by the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET) as a professional engineering curriculum; or (2) include differential and integral calculus and courses (more advanced than first-year physics and chemistry) in five of the following seven areas of engineering science or physics; (a) statics, dynamics; (b) strength of materials (stress-strain relationships); fluid mechanics, hydraulics; (d) thermodynamics; (e) electrical fields and circuits; (f) nature and properties of materials (relating particle and aggregate structure to properties); and (g) any other comparable area of fundamental engineering science or physics, such as optics, heat transfer, soil mechanics, or electronics; OR

B. Combination of education and experience - college-level education, training, and/or technical experience that furnished (1) a thorough knowledge of the physical sciences underlying professional engineering, and (2) a good understanding, both theoretical and practical, of the engineering sciences and techniques and their application to one of the branches of engineering. The adequacy of such background must be demonstrated by one of the following:

1. Professional registration - Current registration as a professional engineer by any State, the District of Columbia, Guam, or Puerto Rico. Absent other means of qualifying under this standard, those applications who achieved such registration by means other than written test (e.g., state grandfather or eminence provisions) are eligible only for positions that are within or closely related to the specialty field of their registration. For example, an applicant who attains registration through a State Board's eminence provision as a manufacturing engineer typically would be rated eligible only for manufacturing engineering positions.

2. Written test - Evidence of having successfully passed the Engineer-in-Training (EIT) examination, or the written test required for professional registration, which is administered by the Boards of Engineering Examiners in the various States, the District of Columbia, Guam, and Puerto Rico. Applicants who have passed the EIT examination and have completed all the requirements for either (a) a bachelor's degree in engineering technology (BET) from an accredited college or university that included 60 semester hours of courses in the physical and engineering sciences, or (b) a BET from a program accredited by the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET) may be rated eligible for certain engineering positions at GS-5. Eligibility is limited to positions that are within or closely related to the specialty field of the engineering technology program. Applicants for positions that involve highly technical, research, development, or similar functions requiring an advanced level of competence in basic science must meet the basic requirements in paragraph A.

Because of the diversity in kind and quality of BET programs, graduates of other BET programs are required to complete at least 1 year of additional education or highly technical work experience of such nature as to provide

Vacancy Listing Report

reasonable assurance of the possession of the knowledge, skills, and abilities required for professional engineering competence. The adequacy of this background must be demonstrated by passing the EIT examination.

3. Specified academic courses - Successful completion of at least 60 semester hours of courses in the physical and engineering sciences and in engineering that included the courses specified in the basic requirements. The courses must be fully acceptable toward meeting the requirements of a professional engineering curriculum as described in paragraph A.

4. Related curriculum - Successful completion of a curriculum leading to a bachelor's degree in engineering technology or in an appropriate professional field, e.g., physics, chemistry, hydrology, or geology, may be accepted in lieu of a degree in engineering, provided the applicant has had a least 1 year of professional engineering experience acquired under professional engineering supervision and guidance. Ordinarily there should be either an established plan of intensive training to develop professional engineering competence, or several years of prior professional engineering-type experience, e.g., in interdisciplinary positions.

Environmental Scientist

A. Successful completion of an undergraduate or higher degree in physical sciences or engineering that included 24 semester units in physical sciences (e.g., chemistry, hydrology, geology, etc.) and/or engineering sciences (e.g., mechanics, dynamics, properties of materials, electronics, etc.);
OR

B. Combination of education and experience - education equivalent to one of the majors shown in A above that included at least 24 semester hours in physical science and/or related engineering science, plus appropriate experience or additional education.

Life Scientist:

A. Degree: biological sciences, soils sciences, natural resource management, hydrology, or related disciplines appropriate to the position; OR

B. Combination of education and experience--Courses equivalent to a major, as shown in A above, plus appropriate experience or additional education.

ADDITIONAL QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

Applicants must meet the specialized experience requirements, including any selective placement factor(s), described in this announcement and U.S. Office of Personnel Management's Operating Manual for Qualifications Standards (www.opm.gov/qualifications/index.htm). Part-time experience is prorated in crediting experience (e.g., if you work 20 hours per week for 12-months period you will be credited with 6 months of experience). Education must be in course work listed under "Basic Qualification Requirements."



Vacancy Listing Report

For the GS-12 level:

One year of full-time specialized experience that demonstrates performance of engineering, physical science or biological science duties requiring in-depth knowledge of CERCLA (Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act) and OPA (Oil Pollution Act) regulations.

For the GS-13 level:

One year of full-time specialized experience that demonstrates performance of engineering, physical science or biological science duties to implement an emergency environmental cleanup programs requiring in-depth knowledge of CERCLA (Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act), OPA (Oil Pollution Act), NRP (National Response Plan) and EPCRA (Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act) regulations.

There is no allowable substitution of education for the GS-12 or GS-13 levels.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

Applicants who meet the qualification requirements will be further evaluated on their responses to the on-line announcement questions. Applicants will be rated on the extend and quality of experience, education, and training relevant to the duties of the position. Eligible applicants will receive a numerical rating based on their responses to the application questions for this position submitted online via EZHire@EPA. These responses must be substantiated by your online resume. Applicants who do not respond to the application questions may be rated ineligible.

Note: EZhire will assign a tentative rating based on your response to the application assessment questions. This tentative rating is subject to change once your application package (including your response to the applicant assessment questions) is reviewed by a Human Resources Specialist.

WARNING! Your answers will be verified against information provided in your on-line resume. Be sure that your resume clearly support your responses to all the questions by addressing experience and education relevant to this position. If you exaggerate or falsify your experience and/or education, you may be removed from employment consideration. You should make a fair and accurate assessment of your qualifications.

HOW TO APPLY FOR THIS VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT: Please follow directions for paragraphs 1, 2 and A through E.

1. Resume and application questions for this vacancy **MUST** be received on-line via the www.epa.gov/ezhire web site **BEFORE** midnight Eastern Standard Time (EST) on the closing date of this announcement. If you fail to submit a **COMPLETE** online resume, you **WILL NOT** be considered for this position. U.S. Office of Personnel Management (OPM) pamphlet (OF-510) Applying for a Federal Job explains what

Vacancy Listing Report

information your resume must contain in order for your resume to be considered complete. You may view OF-510 Applying for a Federal Job from the OPM web site at www.opm.gov/forms/html/of.asp. Paper applications WILL NOT be accepted and requests for extensions WILL NOT be granted. If applying online poses a hardship to any applicant, the servicing Human Resources Office listed on the announcement will provide assistance to ensure that applications are submitted online by the closing date. Applicants MUST CONTACT the servicing Human Resources Office PRIOR TO THE CLOSING DATE to speak to someone who can provide assistance for online submission. If you have accessed this announcement from an alternate web site please visit www.epa.gov/ezhire to apply for this position.

2. Submit all required supplemental application materials by the closing date of the announcement (including Saturdays, Sundays, or government holidays). Supplemental application materials must be sent to either the contact address or fax number identified below and must include your name and the announcement number for which applying. Any materials received after the closing date of the announcement will not be accepted. Failure to clearly mark each document with your name and announcement number may result in your application not being accepted for employment consideration. Supplemental application materials may include one or more of the following:

A. For non-EPA Region 9 employees, submit a copy of your most recent SF-50 Notification of Personnel Action or the last SF-50 that indicated you held a non-temporary competitive service position (for reinstatement or transfer eligibility) or if you are in an excepted service position, your appointment SF-50 that indicates how you were appointed into the Federal Government. If you are not at the full performance level in your current position, be sure to submit an SF-50 that indicates your position's fully known performance potential (Mandatory, if applicable - Failure to submit by the closing date will result in an ineligible rating.)

B. If the position announcement lists the completion of specific college course work under the qualification requirements, submit a copy of college transcripts or provide a list of college courses completed. A list of college courses must identify the department under which the college course was taken, course number, and number of semester or quarter units completed. (Mandatory, if applicable - Failure to submit by the closing date will result in an ineligible rating.)

C. Foreign Education: If you are qualifying for this position in part based upon the completion of a foreign degree, applicants must have their foreign education certified by an accredited American Academic Institute or private credentials evaluation service. Reference: www.opm.gov/qualifications/Sec-II/s2-e4.htm#e4a (Mandatory, if applicable - Failure to submit by the closing date will



Vacancy Listing Report

result in an ineligible rating.)

D. Candidates applying under any one of the following listed competitive or non-competitive hiring authorities must submit proof of your eligibility as follows. (Mandatory, if applicable - Failure to submit by the closing date will result in an ineligible rating.)

Public Health Service Officer: PHS Orders

Peace Corps/VISTA Returnees: Description of service issued by Peace Corps/VISTA

People with Disabilities: Letter from Department of Rehabilitation indicating you are Schedule A eligible.

Veterans applying under either the Veterans Recruitment Act (VRA), or 30% Disabled Veteran:

(Reference www.opm.gov/veterans/index.asp or www.opm.gov/html/vetguide.htm):
DD-214 Discharge Papers

SF-15 Application for 10 point Veterans Preference (Mandatory if applicable)

Supporting documentation as required by SF-15 (Mandatory if applicable)

Failure to submit documentation may not receive consideration.

E. DISPLACED EMPLOYEES REQUESTING SPECIAL SELECTION PRIORITY CONSIDERATION UNDER THE INTERAGENCY CAREER TRANSITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (ICTAP).

If you are a displaced Federal employee, you may be entitled to receive special priority selection under the ICTAP. You will not receive priority consideration under ICTAP eligibility unless you submit all supporting documentation as indicated below. To receive this priority consideration you must:

1. Be a displaced Federal employee within the commute area within the last year. You must submit a copy of the appropriate documentation such as a RIF separation notice, Notification of Personnel Action (SF-50) stating you were separated by RIF, a letter from OPM or your agency documenting your priority consideration status.

2. Apply for a position at or below the grade level of the position from which you have been separated. The position must not have a greater promotion potential than the position from which you were separated. If you are applying for a position with higher promotional potential, you will not be given priority consideration but will be given consideration under the Merit Promotion process.

3. Have a current (or last) performance rating of record of at least fully successful or equivalent. This must be submitted with your application package. (This requirement does not apply to candidates who are eligible due to compensable injury or disability retirement.)



Environmental Protection Agency

Vacancy Listing Report

4. Occupy or be displaced from a position within the local commuting area.
5. Meet minimum qualification requirements including any selective factor, if applicable, and be rated well qualified for the position.

For more information on ICTAP eligibility requirements, please visit <http://www.opm.gov/ctap/index.htm>.

ADDITIONAL APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Please include your name and the announcement number on each page of your documentation to ensure proper processing of your application. Supplemental materials not properly labeled or received after the closing date will not be considered.

Please do not submit any additional documentation which has not been requested in this announcement. For example, do not submit copies of resume, performance appraisals, awards, training certificates, writing samples, or any other non-requested materials.

FAX NUMBER: 415-947-8024

MAILING ADDRESS:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 9
Human Resources Office, PMD-12
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

WHERE TO OBTAIN MORE INFORMATION

You may search www.usajobs.opm.gov or you may call our office at (415) 972-3817.

REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION

EPA provides reasonable accommodations to applicants with disabilities. If you need a reasonable accommodation for any part of the application and hiring process, please notify the Agency. The decision on granting reasonable accommodation will be made on a case-by-case basis.

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

EPA is an equal opportunity employer. Selection for this position will be based solely on merit without regard to race, color, religion, age, gender, national origin, political affiliation, disability, sexual orientation, marital or family status or other differences.

APPLICANTS MUST BE U. S. CITIZENS OR RESIDENTS OF AMERICAN SAMOA OR SWAINS I